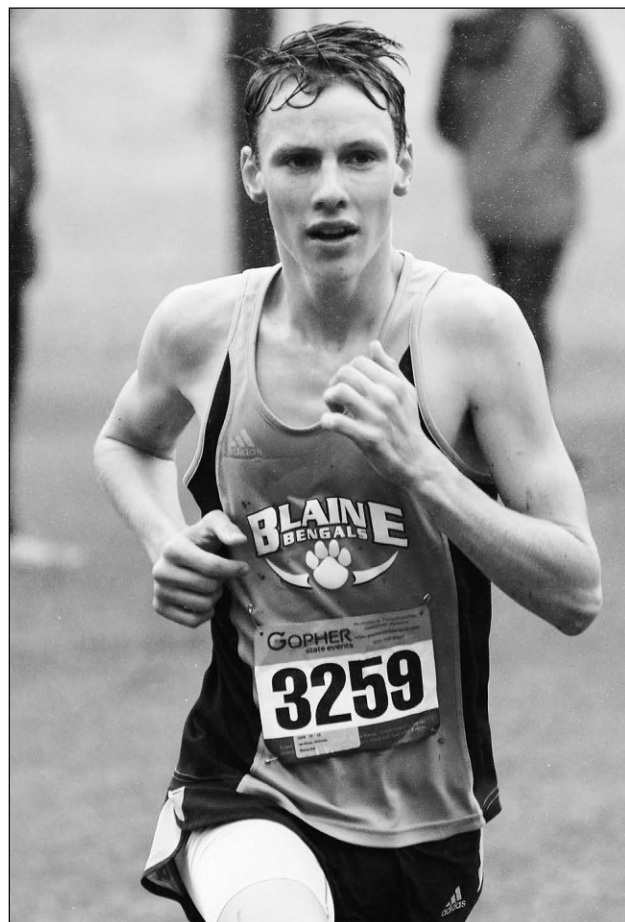


# SPORTS

## NWSC boys cross-country Bengals earn 5th at NWSC meet



Blaine's Nicholas Jacobson earned fourth overall to lead the Bengals to fifth as a team at the Northwest Suburban Conference meet Oct. 10.

Photo by Bill Jones

Patrick Slack  
Staff Writer

Powered by a pair of top-seven individual performances, Blaine earned fifth place out of 14 teams at the Northwest Suburban Conference Championships in Elk River Oct. 10.

Senior Nicholas Jacobson sped to fourth overall in 16:53.5 and junior Tyler Anderson secured seventh in 17:07.8 to pace the Bengals.

Shane Blake (18:07.3) and Sergio Barrett-Espinoza (18:07.6) finished back-to-back in 43rd and 44th, respectively, trailed closely by Nathan Smith (18:21.7), Jeremiah Tomandl (18:43.4) and Joey Delaria (18:57.8).

### SLP's Erickson earns All-NWSC

Spring Lake Park sophomore Owen Erickson earned 24th place in

17:35.3 to attain all-conference honors, leading the Panthers to a 12th-place team finish.

Don Pham crossed the line 57th in 18:18.6, followed by George Gerard (18:31.5), Henry Brooks (18:51.3) and Collin Lief (18:55.2).

Robbinsdale Armstrong earned the team championship with 58 points, followed by Maple Grove (80), Champlin Park (127), Osseo (139), Blaine (152), Coon Rapids (155), Centennial (170), Elk River (194), Irondale (209), Andover (211), Anoka (224), Spring Lake Park (297), Totino-Grace (441) and Park Center (444).

### Section 5AA

Blaine and Spring Lake Park will compete at the Section 5AA meet in Anoka Oct. 25.

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## Section 7AA boys soccer championship: Duluth East 4, Blaine 1

# Bengals reach 7AA championship, fall to top-ranked Duluth East

Patrick Slack  
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Blaine powered its way into the Section 7AA championship match before running into top-ranked and undefeated Duluth East Oct. 16, falling 4-1.

The second-seeded Bengals reached the finals by shutting out sixth-seeded St. Francis 4-0 Oct. 11, burying all four goals in the first half.

Dillon Moore scored twice for the Bengals, with Dominic Hanlin and Ryan Gabler each adding a goal. Tyler Guckeen, Mechack Kitombole, Dawson Penner and Gabler all had one assist, while keeper Ben Greenberg stopped all seven shots he faced for the shutout.

Blaine opened the playoffs with a 5-0 victory over Coon Rapids Oct. 9.

The Bengals finished the season with an 11-7-1 record.

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Blaine's Dillon Moore controls a ball during the Bengals' 4-0 Section 7AA semifinal win over St. Francis Oct. 11. View more photos from the match at [www.abcnewspapers.com/sports](http://www.abcnewspapers.com/sports). Photo by Bill Jones

## NWSC girls cross-country 4 Blaine girls, SLP duo earn All-NWSC

Patrick Slack  
Staff Writer

Blaine had four runners secure all-conference honors at the Northwest Suburban Conference Championships in Elk River Oct. 10, fueling a fourth-place finish out of 14 teams.

Spring Lake Park had a pair of all-conference runners pace a ninth-place team finish.

Blaine freshman Kelsey Huver led the way for the Bengals in 15th individually in 20:15.3, with eighth-grader Shalom Sulungaine just behind in 17th in 20:25.0. Senior Stephanie Lewis earned 26th in 20:49.9 and sophomore Isabelle Scully took 27th in 20:51.5 to earn all-NWSC honors as well.

Brianna Bergerson finished in 43rd place in 21:40.0 to round out the scoring for Blaine, with Adriana Potts finishing 68th in 22:23.6, Bailey Heller finishing 73rd in 22:39.1 and Jordyn Lang finishing



Spring Lake Park's Kaitlyn Finnegan earned 10th place at the Northwest Suburban Conference meet in Elk River Oct. 10.

Photo by Bill Jones

77th in 22:46.8.

Spring Lake Park freshman Kaitlyn Finnegan cruised to 10th overall in 20:01.8 and junior Jenna Terrio finished 20th in 20:34.6 to both earn all-conference distinction and lead the Panthers.

Autumn VanDenTop followed in 47th place in 21:43.3 and Claire VanDenTop took 61st in 22:12.8.

Andover ran away with the team championship with 25 points, followed by Maple Grove (113), Osseo (125), Blaine (127), Centennial (152), Elk River (167), Champlin Park (217), Anoka (219), Spring Lake Park (221), Irondale (253), Robbinsdale Armstrong (256), Coon Rapids (322), Totino-Grace (351) and Park Center (357).

### Section 5AA

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